

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests entry of the foregoing amendments and reconsideration of the present application in view of the reasons that follow.

Second Request re: Formal Drawings Previously Submitted to PTO:

During a review of their file, Applicant has noted that the PTO has not yet acknowledged acceptance of the formal drawings submitted on November 10, 2000. Applicant respectfully requests that the PTO acknowledge acceptance of the drawings in its next communication. This request was made in the previously-filed response, but was not addressed in the Office Action.

Status of Claims:

No claims are currently being amended.

Claims 15-22 are currently being canceled.

No claims are currently being added.

This amendment cancels in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

Claims 1 and 4-14 are now pending in this application.

Request for Entry of After-Final Amendment and Reply:

It is respectfully requested that this after-final amendment and reply be considered and entered, since it places this application in condition for allowance in accordance with the statements made in the Office Action.

Claim Objections:

In the Office Action, claims 19-22 were objected to because of an informality noted on page 2 of the Office Action. Due to the cancellation of claims 19-22, this objection is now moot.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102:

In the Office Action, claims 15-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,422,061 to Sunshine et al. (hereinafter referred to as "Sunshine '061"). Due to the cancellation of claims 15-22, this rejection is now moot.

Conclusion:

Since all of the objections and rejections raised in the Office Action have been addressed in this Amendment and Reply, this application is now believed to be in condition for allowance, and an early indication of allowance is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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